[23rd February 1961

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from certain stall holders in the Municipal Market at Arni and from the Madras State Perishable Article Dealers' Association, Madras, on behalf of the Arni Vegetable Merchants' Sangam.

(b) An appeal is now pending in the High Court against the acquittal of certain stall holders for non-payment of rent at enhanced rates. Pending disposal of this appeal by the High Court, no action could be taken on the said representations.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether the enhancement was made by the Municipal Council or by the Commissioner?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : I need notice of a separate question.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Was there any hartal by the stall-holders and if so, how long did that last?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : I have no information about it.

Harassment of fishermen

* 75 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether any instance of harassment of fishermen of the Verkot village to Rameswaram taluk by the Ceylon Police while they go for fishing operations near Kutch Islands between India and Ceylon has been brought to the notice of the Government and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (a) Yes, Sir. A statement on the subject is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) The Government propose to request the Government of India to take up the matter with the Government of Ceylon.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : தாங்கள் வழக்கமாக மீன பிடிக்கும் இடத்தில் மீன் பிடிக்கச் சென்ற நிரபராதிகளான ஏழை மீனவர்கள் கொடுமையாக அடிக்கப்பட்டும் துப்பாக்கியால் சுடப் பட்டும் துன்புறுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்த சிலோன் அதிகாரிகள் மீது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தை கேட்டிருக்கிறதா ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : நமது அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தோடு இதைப்பற்றி பேசவேண்டு மென்று நினைத்திருக்கிறது.

(a) Printed as appendix on page 371 infra.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : கட்சுத் தீவு நமக்கே சொந்தமானதென்று உறுதிப்படுத்த ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : அது இரண்டு விதமானதாக இருக்கிறது. அதைப்பற்றி நாம் பேச வேண்டியதில்லை.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Chairman, this is not within the purview of the State Government. It is a matter relating to the relationship between two States' Governments. Therefore, it is only within the competence of Parliament.

Kundah Project

*76 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state the expenditure incurred by the Government for the opening ceremony of Kundah Project by the Prime Minister of India?

THE HON SRI V. RAMIAH : An expenditure of Rs. 30,164 was incurred in connection with the inauguration. This includes an expenditure of Rs. 10,500 incurred by the Madras State Electricity Board.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : On what principle do the Government generally spend money on such occasions? Is there any principle governing the spending of money, such large sums of money, for things like this?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : When a large project is to be inaugurated, which is of importance not only to the State but to all India, we have to arrange a fuction of sufficient magnitude or importance to show what we have done. That is the principle.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it for advertisement that the Madras Government have been spending so much money?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : It is not advertisement alone. It is to encourage the workers who have participated in the completion of the project; it is to honour the countries and the great personality that have participated in this project.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Why was not the entire amount spent by the Electricity Board?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : The Prime Minister had to come and participate in the inauguration. The expenditure on security arrangements, etc., had to be met by the Government.